

As a consumer and subscriber of XM for over two years, it astonishes me that the NAB continually tries to enforce limitations on the programming and services of Satellite Radio. It is a premium service that I pay for every month. It's wide variety of programming and services are what make the service well worth the subscription and purchase of a new radio.

Over the past 20 years, the radio industry has consolidated and attempted to become a media oligopoly made up of a few conglomerates. During this time, they have re-programmed almost every radio station in the country into cookie-cutter formats and now spoon-feed consumers with what they think we need to hear. Now they look to seek blame for their declining ratings on entrepreneurial new companies like XM and Sirius. At the same time, they lobby the FCC to continue to relax rules on their own oligopoly.

Two million satellite radio subscribers in less than three years is proof on how fed up consumers are with the lack of information and quality programming on their local stations.

Network and local television stations have been able to survive the onslaught of hundreds of satellite and cable channels during the 80's and 90's while still living within the established rules of the FCC. They did this through innovation and creative programming. Maybe it's time for terrestrial radio to do the same to keep their listeners. To date, I sense no such creativity.

In less than three months, satellite radio has been able to begin broadcasts traffic and weather information that is far superior to that of local stations. Maybe the NAB and FCC should consider how that could have happened?

It is not the consumers fault that terrestrial radio is not being competitive with the new entrepreneurial spirit of companies like XM and Sirius and consumers should not have to suffer for it's lack of foresight.

I would recommend to the FCC that they deny NAB's petition to force XM and Sirius to remove their traffic and weather reports. In fact, I would encourage the FCC to allow the Satellite Radio industry to further expand their services which help the consumer in their every day needs.